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Whooping Crane Recuperates in Md.

Canus, the rare whooping crane that lost half a wing last week in an operation designed to save him, is recuperating comfortably at the Interior Department's Patuxent Wildlife Recuperative Station near Laurel, Md.

"He looks fine," said Dr. Ray Erickson, who holds the unlikely title of assistant director in charge of research on birds in danger of becoming extinct.

The whooper is one of seven in captivity, and one of only about 50 in existence. His right wing was injured three years ago when he crashed into a tree stump. Part of the wing was amputated last week in Colorado after therapy failed to restore it.